GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1281
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2016
Study on the Status of Libraries
Raghavan Shri M. K.

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the status of medium and small category of Libraries across the country including Kerala;

b) if so, the status of these institutions and the present usage and availability of books and reference materials in these libraries;

c) whether the Government has any proposal for restoration of these libraries especially in the rural areas including new buildings and availability of books, etc; and

d) if so, the details of the funds being allotted and the time frame for completion of the restoration work?

Answer

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE
AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

a) Yes Madam. Under the program of the Quantitative & Qualitative Survey of Public Libraries (one of the component of the scheme of National Mission on Libraries(NML)), the work of Survey of Public Libraries in all major States/Union Territories of India covering both rural and urban areas including Kerala has been assigned to Indian Market Research Bureau (IMRB).

b) The survey work is in progress. Survey report is yet to be submitted by the IMRB.

c) National Mission on Libraries has no scheme for restoration of libraries in the rural areas including new buildings and availability of books etc. NML has a scheme of assistance towards setting up of NML Model Libraries at State Central Libraries (one in each State/UT), District Libraries (one in each State/UT) and libraries under the Ministry of Culture through Up-gradation of existing Infrastructure, Up gradation of Technology & Modernization of services, creation of facilities for specially abled groups and to acquire reading resources to meet the local need and advocacy & outreach programs.

However, Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), Kolkata provides Financial Assistance to public libraries for construction/renovation of library buildings, procurement of books etc under its Matching Scheme and Non Matching Schemes on the basis of proposals received with the recommendation of the respective State/UT authorities.

d) During the year 2015-16 financial assistance provided by RRRLF under Matching and Non Matching schemes are as under :

Total Assistance under Matching Schemes is Rs.5353.39 lakh and 22772 libraries assisted.

Central Share - Rs.3396.38 lakh
State Share - Rs.1957.01 lakh

Total Assistance under Non Matching Schemes is Rs.829.94 lakh (100% Central Share) and 621 libraries assisted.

Time frame for completion of Library Building is two years from the date of receipt of the 1st installment of the grant-in-aid which could be extended with the approval of RRRLF in special circumstances.

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